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HEC BRIEFING

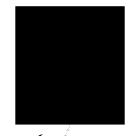
22 September 1954

INDOCHINA - TRUCE VIOLATIONS

I. Flagrant and clear-cut Viet Minh violation of Indochina cease-fire agreement occurred recently in Laos.

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- A. Article 2 of agreement specifies cease-fire throughout Laos, effective 6 August.
 - I. Lastian Legation here, on 18
 September, told press of protest lodged with International
 Commission over "violent" attack
 against Lastian forces on 3, 9,
 and 10 September.
 - 2. Dates and locations slightly different, but attacks probably same as those reported by army attache Saigon, two in Phong Saly province, northern Laos, one in neighboring Sam Neus province.
 - 3. These provinces set aside by Agreement for concentration of Pathet Lao troops.



- a. Lactian declaration at

 Geneva clearly establishes

 Royal Government's right to

 continued administration

 these provinces.
- b. Viet Minh takes position

 Lactian forces these provinces are "bandits," wants
 exclusion all government
 influence.
- II. Incidents in Laos are only most publicized of numerous Viet Minh violations.
 - A. In Vietnam, cessation of hostilities by 27
 July in north, 1 August in center, 11
 August in south, specified by Article 11
 of agreement.
 - Army attache has reported following violations.
 - a. On 2 August, 300 guerrillas attacked post near Haiphong.
 - b. On 13 August, Vietnamese troops ambushed in South Vietnam.
 - c. On 14 August, another ambush in south.

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- d. On 15 August, Central Vietnam railway guardpost south of Nhatrang attacked and destroyed.
- During period 15-21 August, several attacks in Central and South Vietnam.
- 1. On 22 August, watch tower in South Vietnam harassed by unidentified elements.
- B. Vietnam agreement's Article 17, although allowing piece-for-piece replacement of war materiel, prohibits introduction of any reinforcing war unteriel.

1. large chipments of Chinese war supplies have continued at pre-truce level of about 3,000 tons per month.

- a. French deem this aid sufficient to equip new units as well as resupply old ones.
- Intent to circumvent ceasefire controls

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- C. Article 21 Vietnam agreement provides for liberation and repatriation all prisoners of war within 30 days of cease-fire in each area.
 - To date, Viet Minh has released only
 9,635 troops of approximately 55,000
 French say are unaccounted for.
- D. Article 5 of Cambodian agreement specifies demobilization of Khmer dissident forces by 23 August.
 - 1. This still not complied with, in fact, French say Viet Minh supplying new arms to those local dissidents, allowing some old ones to be turned in.